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A SERIOUS and AFFECTIONATE

ADDRESS

TO

MANKIND,

Concerning

GOD and RELIGION;

With reſpect to their preſent State,

AND

Final SALVATION.

HAGGAI i. 7.

Thus ſaith the Lord of Hoſts----*Conſider your Ways.*

This ADDRESS is ſaid to have been wrote by the Rev. Mr. JAMES HERVEY.]

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This plain and affectionate Addreſs is humbly and earneſtly recommended to the *ſerious attention* of all into whoſe hands it may come; beſeeching them neither to condemn it, nor throw it aſide, until they have *duly conſidered* the matter it contains; and compared it with the Truth of GOD's ſacred word, the *only rule* by which they are to be finally accepted of GOD to everlaſting Life, or condemned by Him to everlaſting Puniſhment.

A SERIOUS

ADDRESS, &c.

MY dear fellow Beings, permit me, though a ſtranger, with all diſintereſted love and benevolence to addreſs myſelf to you, concerning your *precious ſouls* and *everlaſting ſtate*; and let not pride, prejudice, ſloth, or unbelief, hinder your ſerious attention and regard to thoſe great concerns which are now preſented unto you, by one that has nothing herein in view but the honour of his Almighty Lord and Redeemer, and your preſent happineſs and eternal advantage.---Whatever has been your former negligence and diſregard to theſe things, for once ſit down and ſeriouſly conſider,

(1) "That you are a creature endowed with a *reaſonable* "and *immortal ſoul*, of unſpeakable value and importance: "made by GOD, the greateſt and beſt of Beings, on purpoſe "to know, love and obey him, and be happy in his favour; "and that you will be judged by him, at the great tribunal, "to everlaſting joy or miſery, according to your *preſent behaviour* towards him."---Theſe things are abundantly evident by the light of reaſon, and teſtified by the truth of GOD in his holy word. Ezek. xviii. 4, 20. Pſalm xxxvi. 1----10. Matt. xxv. 14---45. Rom. ii. 3---9. 2 Theſſ. i. 5---9.

(2) "Conſider that *you*, and *all* mankind, by ſin are *fallen* "*from GOD*; and are poſſeſſed of a *ſinful*, *corrupted Nature*, "which ſtrongly inclines you to *evil*, and indiſpoſes you to "that which is *holy*, *ſpiritual* and *good*. Rom. vii. 14--24."

The Scripture every where repreſents the *natural ſtate* of mankind, as *alienated from the life of GOD*, through the ignorance that is in them, *Epheſ.* iv. 18.----Being *enemies to GOD in their minds* by evil works, *Coloſ.* i. 21.---*Children of diſobedience* and *wrath*, Coloſ. iii. 6. Eph. ii. 1, 2.-----Governed by a *worldly*, *fleſhly* inclination, contrary to the holineſs of GOD, and his pure and ſpiritual Law, *Rom.* viii. 7.---That the *heart* of man is continually *evil* from his Youth, *Geneſ.* viii. 21.

from

from whence, as from a corrupt fountain, proceeds *evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, malice, thefts, covetouſneſs, wickedneſs, deceit, laciviouſneſs, envy, blaſphemy, pride, fooliſhneſs,* &c. as our Lord declares, *Mark* vii. 20---23. *Rom.* i. 29---32.--- And no doubt a little recollection will enable you to diſcern, that *you* often feel theſe and other evils working in *your own* nature. For the All-ſeeing GOD, who knows the true ſtate of every man, ſays, that this is naturally the unhappy condition of *all* men, *Rom.* iii. 9---19. *Iſa.* liii. 6. *Gen.* vi. 3 ---12. *Job* xv. 14---16. 1 *John* v. 19.

(3) "Let it be very ſeriouſly conſidered, that by reaſon of "theſe *ſins*, and this *ſinful* ſtate, you are become very *odious* "in the ſight of GOD's infinite Majeſty and Holineſs: that "you are thereby fallen under his moſt righteous *anger*, and "awful *curſe* and *condemnation*; and without ſome ſpecial "mercy and favour ſhewn you from GOD, are ſinking into "*everlaſting miſery* and *deſtruction*."

The word of GOD declares, that the wages of ſin is *death* and damnation. *Rom.* vi. 23. *Ezek.* xviii. 20. That the face of the Lord is *againſt* them that do *evil*, Pſalm xxxiv. 16. That he is *angry* with them every day, *Pſalm* vii. 11. And his very ſoul *hateth* them, *Pſ.* ix. 5. And though they are rendered ſtupidly blind and inſenſible by ſin, they lie under his *heavy wrath* and *holy curſe* in all that they are, have, and do, *Deut.* xxviii. 15---20. *ch.* xxix. 18---32. *Jerem.* xi. 3---8. *Gal.* iii. 20. The *unbelieving* and *unholy* are every where repreſented in Scripture as in a *loſt* ſtate and condition; being *without* an intereſt in Chriſt's ſaving mercy---*without* GOD's ſpecial acceptance----being *condemned already*---And having *no* good and warrantable *hope*, (while they continue in this ſtate) of GOD's preſent favour, or future ſalvation, *Luke* xix. 10. *John* iii. 18, 36. 2 *Cor.* v. 14. *Eph.* ii. 11, 12.----Howſoever perſons may fooliſhly flatter and deceive themſelves, the eternal GOD has declared that if they die in *this* their natural, ſinful ſtate, and condition, they ſhall certainly *periſh everlaſtingly* from his preſence, and ſink into the endleſs and remedileſs horrors and miſeries of *Hell*, Job xi. 20. Prov. x. 28. Ezekiel xviii. 20. John iii. 6---8. Romans ii. 2---12. 2 Theſſalonians, i. 7---9.

The

The lively and affecting knowledge and apprehenſion of his your *great Miſery* by ſin, is exceeding neceſſary to awaken you from your fatal ſecurity, and cauſe you with all earneſtneſs and ſpeed, to fly for refuge to that ſalvation which is ſet before you in the Lord *Chriſt Jeſus*, the bleſſed Redeemer of Men. And, O! moſt heartily thank GOD, that however *vile* you have been, however *bad* your ſtate is, there is *yet hope* for you in Chriſt Jeſus.---But above all things take heed of *ſlighting* this great Redeemer, of *delaying* your return to GOD, by ſincere faith and humble repentance, and of *deceiving* yourſelves with falſe expectations of heaven and happineſs; for nothing is more common than theſe *damning ſelf-deluſions*, Rev. iii. 17, 18. 2 Tim. ii. 25. Iſa. l. 11. Jerem. vii. 4---14. Job xv. 31.----Beg of GOD, therefore, his holy Spirit, to open your underſtandings to diſcern your true ſtate, and be willing to know it yourſelf; ſince this is the *firſt ſtep* to your recovery and happineſs, 1 *Kings* viii. 39. *Matt.* ix. 39. *Acts* ii. 37. *John* xvi. 8, 9.

That you may know whether you are *reſtored* to GOD's favour, through faith and repentance, and are intereſted in the ſaving mercy of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt----or whether you are yet in this *loſt* and *damnable* ſtate and condition, attend to the deſcription which GOD hath given of all ſuch as he will finally reject, and baniſh from his heavenly kingdom.

1*ſt*, "All that are *unmindful of* GOD, their Maker, Preſer-
" ver, and Redeemer; and that *chiefly love*, *deſire*, and *ſeek*
" *after* the pleaſures and gains of this life, and the contents
" of the fleſh, more than GOD and his favour, Chriſt and
" heaven," *Pſalm* lxxiii. 27. *Matt.* x. 37. *Rom.* viii. 5-8 1, *Cor.* vi. 10. *Phil.* iii. 19. 1 *John* ii. 15.

2*d*, "All that indulge themſelves in *intemperance* or *uncleanneſs*,
" that are drunkards, gluttonous, laſcivious, whore-
" mongers, adultererers; or that defile themſelves by any
" ſecret or unnatural luſt." 1 *Cor.* vi. 9, 10. *Gal.* v. 19--21. *Eph.* v. 5, 6. *Phil.* iii. 19. *Col.* iii. 5, 6. *Rev.* xxi. 8.

3*d*, "All that are *malicious* and *revengeful*; *unmerciful* and
" *uncharitable*; that are ſtrangers to a kind, loving, and for-
" giving

" giving temper." *Pſalm* cvii. 7---16. *Matt.* vi. 15. *ch.* xxv. 41---45. *Rom.* i. 28--31. 1 *Cor.* xiii. 1---7. 1 *John* iii. 10, 15---17.

4*th*, All that are prevailingly *proud* and *ſelf-conceited*; " and are ſtrangers to a meek and humble ſpirit; that love " and purſue the praiſe and eſteem of mankind *more than* " the eſteem and approbation of GOD." *Pſalm* cxix 21. *Habak.* ii. 4. *Malac.* iv. 1. *John* v. 24. *Rom.* i. 29, 30. 2 *Tim.* iii. 2. *James* iv. 4.

5*th*, " All that are *falſe*, *inſincere*, and *unjuſt* in their con- " verſe and dealings with others; and that allow themſelves " in the practice of lying or fraud." *Prov.* xix. 9. *Pſalm* v, 6. *Rom.* i. 18. 29. 1 *Cor.* ix. 10. *Rev.* xxi 8. 27.

6*th*, " All that neglect the great duty of *praying to* GOD: " that live without ſeriouſly and frequently calling upon his " name, and ſeeking his mercy and grace in Chriſt Jeſus." *Pſalm* xiv. 2---4. x. 4. *Jerem.* x. 25. *Zephan.* i. 4--6. *Pſalm* lxxiv. 27---28.

7*th*, " All that ſlight and diſeſteem the *ſacred word of* GOD; " that do not cordially believe it, and ſeriouſly conſider it, " that they may know the mind and will of GOD, in order " to practiſe it." *Pſalm* cxix 155. *Prov.* xiii, 13. *ch.* i. 25---30. *John* viii. 47. 2 *Theſſ.* ii. 10---12. *Hebr.* xii. 25.

8*th*, " All that indulge themſelves in the love and practice " of *any known ſin*, againſt the dictates of their conſciences, " and in oppoſition to the Will and Authority of GOD made " known in his word." *Matt.* vii. 22---27. *Pſalm* cxix 3, 6. *Prov.* x. 29. *Rom.* ii. 8, 9. *Jam.* ii. 10. 11. 1 *John* iii. 6, 10. *ch.* v. 18.

9*th*, " All that do not *ſincerely love* and *heartily believe* in " the Lord *Jeſus Chriſt*, as the *only* Hope and Saviour of ſin- " ners; that ſlight and reject his great ſalvation, or deny " him the glory and honour due to his great and holy Name; " that entertain the fooliſh and preſumptuous conceit of a " ſufficiency of *merit* or *power* in themſelves to obtain heaven " and happineſs; and were never throughly convinced of their " *abſolute need* of the Lord *Jeſus* to be their Saviour, nor of " their

their own *loſt, condemned,* and *helpleſs* ſtate without Him." *John* iii. 18. *ch.* viii. 24. *Matt.* xxii. 4, 5. *Mark* xvi. 15, 16. *Luke* xvii. 46. *Rom.* x. 1---3. *Gal.* iii. 10--24. *ch.* iv. 4, 5. *Titus* iii. 4, 7. 1 *John* ii. 23. *Rev.* iii. 16, 17. All theſe ſorts of perſons GOD, in his word, declares to be in an *unpardoned, damnable ſtate.*

(4) "With the moſt humble thankfulneſs of GOD's infinite "and unſearchable mercy and goodneſs in *Chriſt Jeſus,* re- "member, That he doth *moſt freely* promiſe and give full par- "don, life, and eternal ſalvation to every one, who, renoun- "cing all other dependencies, *truſt in* his mercy and grace in "*Jeſus Chriſt*; ſincerely *repenting* of their ſins, and *yielding* "themſelves in cordial and dutiful *ſubjection* to his juſt autho- "rity, and gracious government."

The Scriptures aſſure us that GOD is in *Chriſt Jeſus reconciling* the world unto himſelf, *pardoning* their treſpaſſes, 2. *Cor.* v. 17.---That though all have ſinned and come ſhort of the glory of GOD, yet, if they repent and believe, they ſhall be *juſtified freely* by his grace, through the redemption that is in *Chriſt Jeſus,* by faith in his blood, *&c.* Rom. iii. 20.---27. ---That *all manner of ſins* and *treſpaſſes* ſhall be freely and fully forgiven unto men, upon their ſincere faith and repentance, in whatſoever they have offended, *Mark* iii. 28---30.---That the Lord *Jeſus Chriſt* is able and willing to *ſave unto the uttermoſt* all that come unto GOD by Him, *Heb.* vii. 25. And that *by him* all that believe are *juſtified from all things* which might condemn them, *Acts* xiii. 39. *Rom.* v. 16---20. *Pſalm* cxxxvii. 8. And *in Him* they ſhall receive all ſpiritual, heavenly bleſſings, *wiſdom, righteouſneſs, ſanctification,* and compleat *Redemption,* 1 Cor. i. 29. Epheſ. i. 3---12.---There is no mind ſo darkned by ignorance and ſin but he will *enlighten.* No heart ſo hardened by guilt but he will *ſoften.* No luſts or evil propenſities ſo old, ſtrong, or inveterate, but he will *heal* and *ſubdue.*—No ſins ſo numerous and aggravated, but he will *pardon,* to thoſe that humbly and earneſtly apply themſelves to him, and wait with conſtancy for his ſalvation. 1 *Tim* i. 12---16. *Matt.* iv. 23. 1 *Cor.* vi. 9---11. *Iſa.* lv. 7---9.

(5) "That a *great* and *holy change,* effected by the power

"of

" of the Spirit of GOD, muſt paſs upon the mind, diſpoſition
" and life, of all that hope to eſcape the damnation of hell
" and enjoy the bleſſings of ſalvation by *Jeſus Chriſt.*"

The Lord and Saviour of Men declares, That except ye be *converted*, and become as little children, (i. e. humble and teachable) ye ſhall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. *Matt.* xvii. 2, 3---With the greateſt ſolemnity *He ſays* (who died to open the kingdom of heaven to ſinners, and knows what is neceſſary for their admiſſion there) " Verily, verily, I ſay unto you, Except a man be *born again* he cannot ſee the kingdom of GOD." *John* iii. 3. ---And becauſe of its great neceſſity and importance *repeats* it again, " Verily, verily, I ſay unto you, Except a man be *born* of water and *of the Spi-*" *rit*, he cannot enter into the kingdom of GOD." *ver.* 6. ---And he gives this convincing reaſon of the indiſpenſible neceſſity of this *great change* in every man, to fit him for heaven, namely, Becauſe that which is born of the *fleſh* is *fleſh.* Mankind deriving from their ſinful parents only a *fleſhly, ſinful* nature, are unfit for the ſervice and enjoyment of an holy GOD; and therefore as men do not gather *grapes* of *thorns* or *figs* of *thiſtles*, or *corrupt* trees bring forth *good* fruit; ſo they muſt be *born again*, of GOD's holy Spirit, to an holy and ſpiritual *life*, before they can bring forth the ſpiritual *fruits* of true righteouſneſs and goodneſs. *Matt.* vii. 16---19. *John* iii. 7. 2 *Cor.* v. 14---17.

This important *change* in a ſinner's *nature* is deſcribed, by being *renewed* in the ſpirit of their minds,---putting on the *new man*, after the image of GOD, in righteouſneſs and holineſs---putting off the *old man*, with its deceitful luſts, *Eph.* iv. 22---24. ---Walking in *newneſs* of life, *Rom.* vi. 4.---Serving GOD, in *newneſs* of ſpirit, *Rom.* vii. 6.---No longer living according to the *luſts* of men, but to the *will* of GOD, 1 *Pet.* iv. 6.---It is being created again in *Chriſt Jeſus* unto good works, *Eph.* ii. 10. As it is a ſpiritual life derived *from* Chriſt Jeſus, and continually maintained *by Him*, in the ſame manner as the *body* receives life and influence perpetually from the *Head*, Epheſ iv. 15, 16. Coloſ. ii. 19. And the *branches* of the vine produce fruit by virtue derived from

rom the *root*, John xv. 1---5.------So that every true Chriſ-ian, not only *receives* a new, ſpiritual life from the Lord Je-ſus, but it is *maintained* and *increaſed*, ONLY by conſtant ſup-plies of grace and ſtrength derived *from him* by faith, in the uſe of GOD's appointed means, *Phil.* iv. 13. *Gal.* iii. 20. *John* i. 16.

(6) "The means by which the ſinners of men receive theſe "ineſtimable bleſſings, of forgiveneſs of ſins, ſpiritual and e-"ternal life and ſalvation, is by *faith in Chriſt Jeſus*, receiv-"ing them as the *free gift* of GOD's grace through him," *Rom.* v. 18. *ch.* viii. 32. 1 *Cor.* ii. 12.

By faith in the Lord *Jeſus Chriſt*, ſinners are *pardoned*, *juſ-tified*, and intitled to the *heavenly inheritance*, Acts xxvi. 15 --18. Rom. v. 1, 2, 10. *ch.* iv. 3---16.---*By faith in Chriſt Jeſus* they receive the promiſe of GOD's *holy Spirit* to nable them for all good works, *Gal.* iii. 21.---And Chriſt *wells in* the hearts of believers *by faith*, to maintain the life of olineſs in them, *Eph.* iii. 16, 17. 1 *Pet.* ii. 4. 5---And y God's grace they are *ſaved* thro' *faith* in *Chriſt Jeſus*, phef. ii. 8. John x. 9. Acts xviii. 30, 31.

And all this great ſalvation and happineſs is moſt *freely offer-d* to, and *ſurely beſtowed* upon every one, who being ſenſible f their own guilt, miſery, and helpleſſneſs, are *truly willing* o receive *Chriſt Jeſus* as their Lord and only Saviour, with-ut reſpect to *merit* or *worthineſs* in themſelves. *Matt.* xi. 28, 9. *Luke* xiv. 17---24. 2 *Cor.* v. 20. *Iſa.* lv. 1---8. *Rev.* iii 18. *ch.* xxii. 17.---As the deſign of the great GOD n the redemption of ſinners by the Lord Jeſus Chriſt is to iſplay the exceeding riches of his own grace and mercy, *Eph.* . 4---7. So there is nothing more contrary to the glory of GOD, to the real ſtate of fallen man, and to his ſalvation by eſus Chriſt, than the conceit of *merit* or *ſufficiency* in himſelf. *Rom.* iii. 19---28. *ch.* xi 6. *Gal.* iii. 10, 24.---Men muſt e themſelves to be condemned criminals before GOD, loſt, ndigent and helpleſs creatures in themſelves; before they can eceive the Lord Chriſt Jeſus, as the goſpel requires, or enjoy he bleſſing of his ſalvation. *Rev.* iii. 17, 18. 2 *Cor.* v. 14. *uke* xix. 10. *ch.* viii. 9---14.

And now, Sirs, *what do you ſay*, to all this free and wonderful love and mercy of GOD, to this amazing grace and ſalvation by *Jeſus Chriſt*?---Can the great and bleſſed GOD and Redeemer of men *do more* for your ſalvation and happineſs than he has done, and is ready to do, if you diligently ſeek his mercy? and muſt you not ſink into *double damnation* if after all this you perſiſt in obſtinate unbelief, and fooliſhly prefer the luſts of the fleſh, and the ſervice of ſin and Satan, before God's bleſſed and holy ſervice, and great ſalvation? --By the love of GOD that made you, by the bowels of *Jeſus Chriſt* that died for you, by all the tender reſpect you owe to your own periſhing, precious and immortal ſouls, *triſle not with eternal Damnation* and *Salvation*. Uſe the reaſon of a man, ſtand ſtill and ſeriouſly *conſider*.

1. That unchangeable, everlaſting joy or miſery is *juſt before you*. Death may put an end to your preſent ſtate of being the very next day or hour.---*Conſider* what apprehenſions all men have, and you yourſelf will have of GOD and religion, of heaven and hell, in a *dying hour*, unleſs you are deſperately hardned and forſaken of GOD; and chuſe *now* as you would wiſh you had choſen when you *come to die*.

2. *Conſider* what *great* and *ſure happineſs* GOD will beſtow upon you, if you cordially accept of his mercy in *Chriſt Jeſus* and yield yourſelf unreſervedly to his bleſſed ſervice. He will bind himſelf to you in an *everlaſting covenant* to be a GOD, a Father, and a Friend unto you, for time and eternity; your almighty preſerver, and conſtant benefactor, 2 *Cor.* vi. 16--18. *Rom.* viii. 14--17.----To bleſs you with *all needful good* here, and *endleſs happineſs* with himſelf in the life to come. *Pſalm* lxxxiv. 11. *Rom.* viii. 32.

3. *Conſider* what exquiſite ſelf-torturing *vexation* muſt ſeize upon your guilty ſpirit at death, and for ever rend it with horror and deſpair, if through negligence, infidelity, or any ſinful affection, you *miſs of* this great ſalvation and happineſs, ſo plainly ſet before you, and freely offered unto you!-----Muſt you not ſink into dreadful damnation, beyond what *Heathens*, *Jews*, or *Devils* themſelves ſhall endure, who never had ſo much mercy and goodneſs made known to them?---O! who

can

an conceive the unſpeakable anguiſh of a creature that finds imſelf everlaſtingly cut off from the wonderful, ſaving Mercy f Chriſt, the great Redeemer of Men; and eternally baniſhed om the bleſſed and glorious preſence and enjoyment of GOD is Maker, to ſhare with devils and damned ſpirits for ever, n remedileſs darkneſs, miſery, and deſpair!---*O make not ſuch bitter* curſe *of your* immortality, *which is capable of the high-ſt* bleſſedneſs.

Sirs, let me again intreat you with all tender love ſeriouſly o *conſider* theſe things, at leaſt once a day: Let not fooliſh rejudices, vain companions, or ſenſeleſs diverſions ſtifle and rown your ſober thoughts. *Try*, reſolvedly and throughly *try* he bleſſed ſervice of GOD your Maker, thro' faith in your edeemer; and then if you find any thing that will be really *etter for you* than GOD, and Chriſt, and Religion, caſt theſe ff, and chuſe at your pleaſure---But O, ſink not into hell y *falſe conceits*, until you have once made the happy experi-ent---Murder not your own ſouls by *ſenſeleſs delays*, which re capable of everlaſting felicity.---If you can trifle with God nd heaven, and ſport with hell and damnation *now*, think ot that you ſhall do ſo when you *feel* the fiery indignation f your offended Judge: or that it will be as eaſy for you to ndure the tortures of the damned, as it is now to *read* of them ---*O! be wiſe in time.*

But if your conſciences are *convinced* of the reaſonableneſs nd neceſſity of repentance, faith, and dutiful obedience to GOD, ure you will not neglect the *preſent* practice of them; ſure ou dare not deſperately deſpiſe the great Salvation of *Chriſt* vilfully ſin on ſtill, and poſt to miſery and deſtruction with our *eyes open.*

If you are concerned to know *what you ſhould do to be ſaved?* ou have anſwer to this inquiry from GOD's own word, *Believe n the Lord* Jeſus Chriſt, *and thou ſhalt be ſaved?* Acts xvi. 31. Renounce all dependence upon *your own* wiſdom, power, and oodneſs; cordially and entirely reſign yourſelf to him, and ruſt in him for *all* ſalvation and happineſs, 1 *Cor.* i. 30, 31. *Acts* iv. 12. And he will heal your ſinful nature, and pardon our manifold offences, *Acts* v. 31. --And then be diligent and conſtant

conſtant in the uſe of thoſe *means* which the wiſdom and goodne of GOD has appointed for your recovery;---by which he uſed to beſtow his ſpecial mercy and favour to thoſe tha ſeek him; but expect not your ſalvation from them, but fro GOD alone through them.

1ſt. Get often *alone*, and ſeriouſly conſider your *own way* how evil, vain, and fooliſh they have been, 1 *Kings* viii 47, 49. *Pſ.* cxix. 59. *Jer.* viii. 6.---2d, Hear and rea diligently the *word of God*: eſpecially read thoſe parts which are moſt ſuited to your ſtate, and you can beſt underſtand This bleſſed Book was inſpired for your inſtruction and ſalva tion. *Pſ.* xix 7.---cxix. 9. *Jam.* i. 18, 21. 1 *Pet.* i. 23 ---Attend with conſtancy where the goſpel of ſalvation i preached with moſt faithfulneſs, and ſucceſs. *Rom.* x 15--- 17. 1 *Cor.* 1. 18---24---3d, Be frequent, fervent, and conſtant in *humble prayer* to GOD for his mercy and grace in *Chriſt Jeſus*, Amos v. 4, 5. Ezek. xxxvi. 26. 37. Acts viii. 22. Jam. i. 5.---4th, Be faithful to conſcience in avoiding thoſe *evils*, and attending to thoſe *duties* which you are acquainted with. *Iſa.* lv. 7. *Prov.* xiv. 16. *Ezek.* xiv. 7, 8. *Hoſea* v. 4.---5th, Avoid all unneceſſary converſe with the *evil* and *profane*; and aſſociate yourſelf with the *pious* and *good*. *Pro.* ix. 6. ch. xiii 20. Acts ii. 40. 1 Cor. xv. 33.---6th, But eſpecially be often *looking up* to the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by faith in his precious blood and interceſſion, for mercy and ſalvation *Iſa.* xlv. 22. *John* iii. 14---16---7th, Laſtly, *never reſt ſatisfied* nor leave off *diligently ſeeking*, until, by the grace of GOD, you find the power of ſin ſubdued in you, and you have attained a comfortable aſſurance of his forgiving mercy, according to his gracious promiſes in *Chriſt Jeſus*. Matt. xv. 22---28 Luke xi. 5---13. ch. xviii. 1---8. Hoſea vi. 3.

"This do, and you ſhall be bleſſed and happy, now and "for ever."

AMEN.